

# THE CITY OF NEW YORK INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE

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## **IBO Releases New Public School Report**

## **Data on Demographics, Resources, and Outcomes**

## Also Launches Web Page Providing Similar Data for Every Public School

The New York City Independent Budget Office today released its first annual report of citywide data on New York City's public schools. The report, *New York City Public School Indicators: Demographics, Resources, and Outcomes,* presents about four dozen tables and graphs that offer a broad look at the current state of the city's schools. In conjunction with the release of the report providing citywide data, IBO is also launching a new Web page providing similar statistics for each of the city's 1,533 schools.

"We are pleased to make these new resources available to parents, policymakers, and other New Yorkers concerned about the city's schools," said Ronnie Lowenstein, IBO's director. "The report provides a statistical description of the students who attend the city's public schools, the fiscal resources available to support the schools, the principal and teachers who staff the schools, and selected indicators of school performance for key subgroups of students."

Some of the information presented in the report:

- A demographic shift among principals started about 10 years ago, with more women becoming
  principals and the median age of principals dropping. But over the past five years principal
  demographics have remained largely unchanged (Table 3.6, page 16).
- Students who are absent five or fewer days each year pass the state English and math test at a rate more than double of those students absent 21 or more days a year (Table 4.5, page 31).
- Students from low-income families (defined as eligible for free school lunch) who attended schools with comparatively low concentrations of poverty score higher on state tests than students from higher-income families attending schools with large numbers of children from poor families (Table 4.10, page 34).
- Per-pupil spending, after accounting for inflation and funds going to private special education and charter schools, grew a total of 2 percent over the past three years. All of the increase is attributable to rising pension costs—if these pension costs are removed actual per-pupil spending has decreased (Table 3.3, page 14).



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The data presented in the report focuses on the city's traditional public schools. With the exception of citywide budget data, it does not include information on publicly financed private special education programs or charter schools.

The data IBO has used comes from the Department of Education. IBO's access to this data was part of the state legislation that continued mayoral control of the schools two years ago. The tables and graphs presented in the report reflect IBO's analysis of the data obtained on individual students, schools, and school staff. The report and online data were developed under the direction of Raymond Domanico, IBO's director of education research.

The 45-page report is available online at <a href="http://bit.ly/nYvePr">http://bit.ly/nYvePr</a> A free, printed copy of the report can be obtained by calling 212-442-0632. The individual school data is available online at <a href="https://bit.ly/qIMJL3">bit.ly/qIMJL3</a>